

Message Text

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22

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /020 W

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R 171545Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5606

USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

INFO AMCONSUL ROTTERDAM

UNCLAS LONDON 14739

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, UK

SUBJECT: OFFSHORE EXHIBIT LONDON 1978

REF: A) THE HAGUE 5041 B) LONDON 8914

1. HMG'S OFFSHORE SUPPLIES OFFICE CONFIRMS AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN ITF OF LONDON AND SPE HOUSTON FOR STAGING OF COMPREHENSIVE OFFSHORE EXHIBIT ENTITLED EUROPEX. FIRST EUROPEX SCHEDULED FOR 24 - 27 OCTOBER, 1978 AT AN AS YET UNSELECTED SITE IN LONDON. SHOW WILL BE BIENNIAL. 1980 SHOWSITE EXPECTED TO BE BIRMINGHAM'S NATIONAL EXHIBITION CENTER. LONDON AS SITE FOR 1978 SHOW APPARENTLY HEAVILY FAVORED BY HOUSTON-BASED OIL COMPANIES.

2. SHOW WILL BE MODELLED ALONG LINES OF OTC HOUSTON, AND WHILE 1978 SCALE OF NECESSITY MORE MODEST THAN OTC, DIMENSIONS AND COVERAGE DUE TO INCREASE. UNDERSTAND THAT COVERAGE WILL REMAIN LIMITED TO OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS, THOUGH PARAMETERS STILL FLEXIBLE AT THIS EARLY STAGE.

3. HMG, ACCORDING OSO SPOKESMAN, IS NOT A PARTY TO AGREEMENT ALTHOUGH OSO WAS "DEEPLY CONCERNED" IN ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS, IS "VERY MUCH IN FAVOR OF AND STRONGLY SUPPORTS" NEW EXHIBIT WHICH IT WILL COMMEND

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TO U.K. INDUSTRY. OSO HOPES EXHIBIT WILL HAVE AFFECT

OF DRYING UP SUPPORT FOR OTHER, LESS VIABLE EXHIBITS
WHICH HAVE PROPAGATED IN RECENT YEARS.

4. OSO SAYS NEGOTIATIONS WERE PROTRACTED, BUT EVEN-
TUALLY SPE AGREED TO RECONSIDER CERTAIN PROPOSALS,
AND THE OUTCOME WAS VERY SATISFACTORY TO HMG.

5. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EUROPEX WILL PROBABLY BE MADE BY
SPE TOWARDS THE END OF, OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING,
STAVENGER EXHIBIT I.E. END OF SEPTEMBER.

ARMSTRONG

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